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1886

THE CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY

With which is incorporated

THE CHINA DIRECTORY

(Twenty-Second Annual Issue)

ROYAL OCTAVO, pp. 1132 with plans \$3.00.

SMALLER EDITION, pp. 752.....\$3.00.

THE CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY

has been thoroughly revised and brought up

to date, and is again much increased in bulk.

It contains DESCRIPTIVE AND STATISTICAL

ACCOUNTS OF, AND DIRECTIONS TO, FOR

HONGKONG, KOWLOON, AND THE VICINITY.

Do Ladies' Directory JAPAN—

Do Military Forces. Nagasaki.

Do Chinese Hong Kong, Kago (Higo).

MAOAO, CHINA—

Pakhoi.

Hohow.

Wanchoo.

Canton.

Shanghai.

Szechow.

Annam.

Hankow.

Tientsin.

Peking.

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REDUCED PRICES.

in great variety.

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A. S. WATSON & CO.,

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Hongkong, 21st January, 1886.

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Correspondents are requested to forward their names

and address with communications addressed to the

Editor, not for publication, but as evidence of good

faith.

All letters for publication should be written on one

side of the paper only.

Advertisements and Subscriptions which are not

ordered for a fixed period will be continued until

countermanded.

Orders for extra copies of the Daily Press should

be sent before 11 a.m. on the day of publication.

After that hour its supply is limited.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, FEBRUARY 16th, 1886.

Some time ago our Shanghai morning con-

templation made the singular proposal that

Japan should take over Tonquin from the

French, or at all events occupy it under the

supervision of Neutral Powers. In support

of this proposition it went on to say:—"It is

not generally known that the Japanese

established an influential colony in Tonquin

over 200 years ago; further, that both in the

country and in the habits and customs of

the people's distinct impress of its existence

remains to the present day. The nominal

sovereignty of China has left little perceptible

evidence on the country or people. The

Mandarin badge of servitude is nowhere to be

seen. The dress of the people, and especially

that of the women, resembles the Japanese

costume. Even food is eaten on mats, not

on tables, and in lacquer bowls and trays, as

in Japan. In fact, if it were not for their

bush-chewing propensities, a traveller from

Japan in Tonquin might not at a very

wide stretch of imagination almost fancy

himself in the former country and its sur-

roundings rather than in Coochin-China. This

character and disposition of the people is in-

finitely more Japanese than Chinese, and

they have the same religion and use the

same written character as the former race."

After urging that France would never wil-

lingly retrocede Tonquin to China, and re-

marking that it is doubtful whether the la-

tior country would care to possess it as it

would entail an expenditure she could ill

afford, the Daily Press proceeds to remark:

—"Japan with a population of 36,000,000

wants an outlet for her large surplus, and

instead of sending them to out-of-the-way

Pacific islands which can afford no permanent

home for them, it would be more advan-

tageous to encourage emigration to Ton-

quin, as in every way more amiable, besides

being nearer home. Properly governed,

Tonquin cannot fail to become a rich and

productive country in a few years, and

as Japan could not be expected to make

financial sacrifices in her present condition,

the European Powers might see the ad-

visability of guaranteeing a loan sufficient

for the proper development of the country

until it becomes self-supporting, besides

combining their moral support with that of

China. The colonisation of Tonquin by

Japanese would cost but a trifle of what

it cost France. A comparatively small Jap-

anese contingent could hold the delta which

the French has such difficulty in maintain-

ing with all their western appliances and oc-

cupancy. The Higo News makes

fun of the whole proposal, as a strange fad,

and more especially the idea of the European

Powers guaranteeing a loan for the purpose

of developing Tonquin, and it must be ad-

mitted that the Shanghai Journal's sugges-

tion will not come within the domain of

practical politics. It is in the last degree

improbable that such a quixotic proposal will

receive a moment's consideration in Europe,

where the great Powers have already more

than one "Sick Man" to look after. We

thing in the nature of a secret alliance between

France and Japan. If the French Govern-

ment require the aid of Oriental troops they

had better endeavour to come to an arrange-

ment with Sir J. J. J. and his Black Flag

or else raise further Algerian levies to serve

in Tonquin. They are not likely, we

think, to obtain recruits from the land of

the Rising Sun.

The French cruiser Roland left Shanghai for

Amoy on the 4th inst.

From the Manila papers we learn that Signor

Chiarini is making a satisfactory recovery from

his recent accident.

The French corvette Primoguet, Commander

Buge, arrived at Yokohama on the afternoon of

the 15th inst. from Kobe.

The Japanese Naval Department is (according

to a veritable paper) about to construct con-

siderable numbers of gunboats at Hongkong and

Shanghai.

It is stated that Mr. Arthur Davenport has

withdrawn his resignation of the Consular Ser-

vice, and is expected shortly to arrive at Canton

as Consul.

The three representatives of the German Syn-

dicate, Messrs. Bethge, Exner, and Erich, intend

to make a short trip to Canton before starting

for the North.

A list of the masters, mates, and engineers who

passed their examinations before the Board of

Examiners, provided by Section 15 of Ordinance

No. 8 of 1878 during the year 1885 is published

in Saturday's Gazette.

We have received from Messrs. Birley, Dal-

rymple & Co., the local Agents, a copy of the

report of the sixth half-yearly meeting of the

British North Borneo Company held in London

on the 15th December last.

A very successful fair was given at Shanghai

on the 4th inst., under the auspices of the Shen-

gwan Marine Engineers' Association. The fair

has been given annually on the Chinese New Year

Day for the past ten years.

We learn from the Manila Comercio that Miss

Davenport has recently been unable to appear

with the Masqueto Opera Company owing to in-

disposition. The leading parts have consequently

fallen to Miss Terrence Seymour.

The Daily News says:—"Mr. William Donald

Spence, having resigned the British Consular

Service, is now leaving for Hongkong and Shang-

hai, where he will hold a very responsible position.

We (N. C. Daily News) learn from an un-

authorised source that the rehabilitation of M.

Bourne as Minister to Peking is actually decided

upon, and that His Excellency will probably

be sent out to China in company with the Marquis

Tsong.

The Chinese transport, Macao, left Shanghai

on the 4th inst. for Hongkong. The ship

port the unladen the Victory of Fakhien, who

will proceed in her to Formosa, for the purpose

of inspecting the new fortifications now in the

course of erection.

The gunboat to be presented to the Spanish

Navy by the Philippines (for which a patriotic

subscription has been open for some months)

is a 400-ton gunboat, named the "Alfonso," and

is to be built at the arsenal of the Philippines.

She is to cost \$110,000, which amount

the subscription has now almost reached.

According to the Canton correspondent of the

Daily News, "cannibalism is not peculiar to

the Black Flags. No Chinese soldier in Tonquin

during the late war lost an opportunity to eat

the flesh of a fallen enemy." Further, the Jap-

anese, especially that of foreign warriors, is

the best possible stimulant for a man's courage."

The steamer Nippon, which arrived at Shang-

hai on the 9th inst., reports leaving Hongkong

on the 4th at 3.30 a.m. It was blowing a strong

S.W. gale, and she had to anchor in Deep Bay

for shelter till the morning of the 5th. The

Colas-Steamer-Thomas was employed in the

same place. The Nippon had also to anchor

when off Plover Point.

We are requested authoritatively to contradict

the report—to which we gave publicity in Sat-

urday's issue—that the Hongkong and Shanghai

Banking Corporation were considering the ad-

visability of lowering their rates of interest on

deposits and current accounts on per cent. as

well as the rate charged on advances. We are

assured that no such intention exists.

The Rising Sun of the 9th inst. says:—"A

fall of snow, unprecedented in Nagasaki in the

course of the last 100 years, was reported from

Nagasaki during the past week. Commencing

on Sunday morning, it continued to fall, accom-

panied by a strong wind, for four consecutive days,

almost without intermission. Reports of similar

unusually heavy snow-falls have been received

from other parts of the country."

The Kyoto correspondent of a Kobe paper

The Messageries Maritimes steamer Bapclon,

with the northward French mail, left Singa-

pore for Saigon and this port on Saturday at

3 p.m.

We have to acknowledge receipt of the "List

of the Chinese Lighthouses, Light-vessels,

Buoys, and Beacons for 1886," issued by the

Imperial Maritime Customs, and corrected to 1st

December, 1885.

A second concert organised by the Rev. Canon

Goldsmith took place at the Sailors' Home on

Friday evening in the presence of a large ga-

thering of seamen. The ladies and gentlemen

who kindly assisted were the Misses Kennedy,

Edwards, Messrs. Morgan, G. Strale, J. Dale,

J. D. Woodford, W. Powell, S. Lea, Master

George White, and Mr. Bateman, who contrib-

uted a reading from "Pickwick."

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